



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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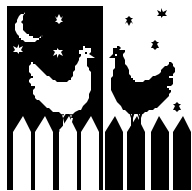
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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Majority prices were trending unchanged to higher. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Demand into all areas was moderate to good aided by retail features and seasonal food service interest. Supplies of light weight product was sufficient to well cleared, heavier sizes at least sufficient. In the parts structure, availability of breast items was irregular, mostly at least adequate, with demand light. Dark meat was also mixed, but mostly balanced to well cleared, and wings were fully adequate to ample and at times discounted to assist in movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 05/21-05/26/01 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A			COMPOSITE	
(Including branded product)			WTD	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	50.00-55.00	50.00-65.75	53.19	24
Los Angeles	68.00			
New York	52.00-54.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	62.50-64.00	51.00-66.00	63.45	78

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 63.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
637	58.45-65.00	63.02

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	208.50	1,208
BREASTS - B/S	145.00	3,858
BREASTS - WHOLE	82.50	1,078
THIGH MEAT - B/S	97.50	725
LEG QUARTERS	29.00	7,913
WINGS	101.50	2,735

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS The preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area were unchanged from Monday's final. Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was steady to instances fully steady. Additional product offerings varied with buyers acquiring for immediate needs. Retail demand was irregular, mostly moderate, best for features. Food service was typical for end of the week with the St. Louis and Detroit areas reporting less than expected orders for Friday. Floor stocks were adequate to fully adequate. Sizes were in a desirable range. Trading on parts items was mixed, cautious and selective as several end users work off existing inventories. Supplies were tight on drums, fully adequate to instances burdensome with discounts noted on wings and boneless/skinless breasts, and the balance of items adequate for trade needs. The market one was barely steady to weak on wings, steady with a weak undertone on boneless/skinless breasts and steady on all other items.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was overall steady. Demand was light to moderate with mixed trading and best movement going into retail for specials and fast food with the onset of seasonal interest. Supplies were usually in balance to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were sufficient to less available and moving. Dark meat was no more than adequate, and wings were still at least adequate but attempting to become more balanced. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was generally steady. Trading for next week's deliveries at mainly unchanged prices on regular commitments and mixed on new negotiations. Offerings fully adequate with heavy weights in the longest position. Small sizes were confidently held. Retailer demand moderate overall, best to cover features. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers. Ads noted: Southern California - whole body 48-89, boneless breasts 179-199, boneless thigh meat 147-238, boneless leg meat 138, split breasts 99-239, whole legs 129, leg quarters 10# bag 380-390, wings 129, thighs 59-129, drumsticks 59-129 and 5# bag 288-295, roasters 139, cornish hens 199; Northern California - whole body 159, cornish hens 189, drumsticks 99, thighs 99, boneless breasts 399-559, 4# bag IQF party wings 499; Denver - leg quarters 39, drumsticks 99, thighs 99; Arizona - whole body 79-119, boneless breasts 179, split breasts 159-189, drumsticks 99-119, thighs 99-119, cornish hens 279 each or 2/500, (IQF 4# bags wings 499, boneless thighs 499, drumsticks 276-496, thighs 276-496, boneless breasts 796-1199).

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was moderate to fairly good entering the weekend. Offerings of the 3 pound and lighter birds were closely cleared, but the 3.5 to 4 pound sizes were at least adequate. Movement through retail and distributive channels was generally good as seasonal business takes shape. The market tone was steady to fully steady. In the parts structure, bone-in breasts remained available, and boneless skinless breasts were generally sufficient. Thighs were fully sufficient, but the balance of dark meat cuts were clearing well. Wings were ample and discounted.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was moderate to good entering the weekend. Offerings were in good balance to well cleared on the 2.25 thru 3.0 pound sizes; heavier weights were fully adequate. Live supplies were generally moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were heavy when combined with a few plants set to operate on Saturday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 54 to 68 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Boneless skinless and bone-in breasts were at least adequate. Leg items generally cleared well. Wings were readily available.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	52-70
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	57.38
NO. OF BOXES	12,671
CUMULATIVE	
	05/14/01-05/18/01 56.84
	05/15/00-05/19/00 59.12
NO. OF BOXES	
	05/14/01-05/18/01 67,612
	05/15/00-05/19/00 49,057

*7 of 8 plants reporting.

MAY 17

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAY 18

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE			(000)	RANGE			(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	836	125.00-220.00	145-150	148.13	985	125.00-220.00	145-150	148.27	3,974	147.69
TENDERLOINS	158	145.00-235.00	150	159.05	166	145.00-235.00	150	158.61	697	160.22
BREAST - LINE RUN	86	74.00-81.00	75-77	79.78	87	74.00-81.00	75-77	79.79	438	79.61
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				328	78.29
LEGS	108	40.50-48.00	41-43	41.61	123	40.00-48.00	40-42	41.37	612	41.53
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	397	25.00-28.00	26-27	25.78	427	25.00-28.00	26	26.01	2,193	26.29
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,550	27.00-30.00	28-30	28.67	1,640	27.00-30.00	29	29.01	7,518	28.81
WINGS (WHOLE)	102	90.00-102.00	-	97.51	102	90.00-102.00	95-98	97.51	709	99.33
WINGS (CUT)	620	102.00-120.00	106-108	112.84	647	101.00-120.00	109-112	112.70	3,090	114.05
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				TFEWR	
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				TFEWR	
B/S THIGHS	46	93.00-96.50	-	95.74	50	89.00-97.00	-	89.81	225	94.77

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS*****
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR MAY 17, 2001 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S

TRADING FOR MAY 18, 2001 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S

5-DAY

RANGE

AVERAGE

RANGE

AVERAGE

AVERAGE

49.00 - 55.50

52.06

48.50 - 56.50

54.99

52.55

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest increased slightly entering the weekend, but was generally noted as moderate and typical of end of the week activity. Offerings of bone-in breasts were available with discounting occasionally noted to stimulate sales. Boneless-skinless breasts were at least adequate. Legs and leg quarters were well cleared, although, thighs were fully adequate. Wings were readily available. Movement through retail and distributive channels ranged fair to fairly good at times. The market tone was fully steady on legs and leg quarters, about steady on breast items and weak on wings.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*				TRADING*				WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145-150		148.86	636,240	145-150		149.14	574,040	149.41	2,969,570
TENDERLOINS	135-140		144.45	122,460	135-140		144.66	177,920	144.43	718,190
BREAST - WITH RIBS	74-75		82.83	291,120	74-75		81.68	331,040	82.43	1,708,680
BREAST - LINE RUN	74		73.16	191,200	74		73.63	212,400	76.47	920,400
LEGS	40-41		45.65	214,640	40-41		44.81	260,280	45.06	1,291,480
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	29-30		30.36	565,480	29-30		30.33	430,604	30.84	2,961,092
DRUMSTICKS	36-37		44.13	147,070	36-37		43.52	202,980	43.56	866,040
THIGHS	37-38		40.85	156,010	37-38		41.32	190,080	42.21	1,176,960
B/S THIGHS	88-89		92.13	64,160	88-89		91.98	73,240	92.09	346,350
WINGS (WHOLE)	98-99		106.13	319,200	96-97		97.73	458,840	103.62	2,036,180
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		12.26	94,080	10-12		12.05	106,920	12.08	476,440
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35		39.48	80,800	30-35		39.67	97,160	39.62	420,895
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45		44.82	115,760	40-45		44.87	151,520	44.66	661,560

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		AVG WTS	
	05/18	05/17	05/16	05/15	05/16	05/15	05/11	05/09
ALA	3,840	3,961	3,663	3,900	5.15	5.01	3,853	5.07
ARK	5,518	5,200	4,913	5,179	4.99	4.98	5,421	4.97
DELMARVA	2,855	2,345	2,336	2,272	5.12	5.16	2,396	5.07
KY-LA-TN	1,975	1,799	2,038	1,997	4.40	4.57	2,122	4.52
MISS	2,858	2,826	2,688	2,864	5.19	5.17	3,562	5.08
NC	3,236	2,613	2,638	2,629	6.01	6.06	2,858	6.08
TEXAS	2,695	2,351	2,340	2,363	4.86	4.85	2,311	4.80
TOTAL	22,977	21,095	20,616	21,204	5.12	5.11	22,523	5.09

MON-FRI 107,365(A) 106,095(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 18-May 01 and 19-May-01 is estimated to be 34,376,000 up 10.28 percent from a week ago and up 1.7 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 33,800,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 19-May-01 is estimated to be 156,053,000 head down 1.2 percent from a week ago, and down 1.7 percent from a year ago (Last week 157,969,000 Last year 158,827,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY,**DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	84-86
ROASTERS 4# & UP	71-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	
DUCKS	139
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	102
ROASTERS 4# & UP	94-96
HENS OVER 5#	104-121
DUCKS	123
	96
	123
	152-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending May 05, 2001 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning
Food service
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up

	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	32,091	25,699	58,496
Avg Weight	3.76	4.76	6.03
% of total /1	28%	22%	50%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	35,934	21,465	49,248
Avg Weight	3.81	4.71	6.01
% of total /1	34%	20%	46%
Same week, yr ago /2	33,212	31,626	42,491
Avg Weight	3.76	4.73	6.14
% of total /1	31%	29%	40%
To date/2001	583,732	466,068	811,375
To date/2000	594,559	572,145	732,955

1/ May not total to 100% due to rounding.

2/ Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 12-May-2001 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	157,969(A)	1,575	1,465	3,040	538
AVG WT	5.20	3.44	8.00	5.64	6.55
LAST WEEK	157,022	1,754	1,400	3,154	504
SAME WK YR AGO	157,176	2,024	1,238	3,262	431
AVG WT	5.06	3.37	7.87	5.08	6.47
TO-DATE/2001	2,865,755	34,834	25,276	60,110	9,552
TO-DATE/2000	2,918,915	38,774	25,947	64,721	8,548

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 159.1 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 159.9 million head or 0.8 million head more than or 101 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: MAY 15, 2001

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.18 - 1.26	Silkie	3.50 - 5.50ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.18 - 1.32	Pigeons	2.75 - 3.50ea.
Pekin Ducks	.60 - .82	White Pigeons	3.50 - 3.90ea.
Red Fowl 4-4.5 LBS	.40 - .54	Rabbits	
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.50 - .82	4-6 LBS	1.30 - 1.64
Crossbred Fowl		Rabbits	
5-9 LBS	.50 - .86	7-11 LBS	1.20 - 1.44
Crossbred Roasters		Bunnies	.50 - 2.50ea.
4-6 LBS	.40 - 1.22	Guinea Pigs	.25 - 3.00ea.
Crossbred Roasters		Kid Goats	18.00 - 40.00ea.
7-11 LBS	.40 - 1.12	Doves	5.00 - 7.50ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.70 - 2.55	Pullets 4-6 LBS	.60 - .84
Banty Roasters	3.00 - 7.00ea.		
Banty Hens	3.00 - 4.50ea.		
Leghorn Hens	.28 - .38		
Leghorn Roasters	.40 - .54	Total Coops Sold	748

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 14-MAY-2001

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		

MIDWEST	122-126	123-127
MOSTLY	122-124	123-125

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	68-69
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	62-85
	64-71

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was mostly moderate to fairly good. Sizes were in the desirable range. Slaughter schedules were full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$5.00-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.38, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$.50-.75, livers at \$.50-1.50, and feet at \$.90-1.15. NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 14-MAY-2001

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	121-123	124
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
APRIL	7	155.7	104	4.92
	14	145.8	151.5	96
	21	153.1	153.5	100
	28	158.8	156.2	102
MAY	5	158.9	158.5	100
	12	159.9	159.1	101
YEAR TO DATE	2900.6	2880.8	101	
MAY	19	157.9		
	26	157.4		

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	05/19/01	05/12/01	% CHG	05/20/00	% CHG
Broilers	156,053	157,969	-01	158,827	-02
Cattle	728	724	+01	719	+01
Hogs	1,751	1,793	-02	1,753	0

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Prices were about unchanged on lights and irregular on heavy canners when compared to a week earlier. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate. Demand was light to moderate. The undertone was generally steady on lights but cautious and usually no better than steady on heavies.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
24-26 MAJORITY 24-25	32-39.5 MAJORITY 33-37

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
24-27.5 MAJORITY 25	33-40 MAJORITY 34-39

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged. Demand was light for ample to burdensome offerings. Processing schedules for next week were less than normal to normal. Canners movement was fair with offerings adequate for full needs. The market tone was steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was light for adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was about steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices unchanged. Ample offers for the fair at best demand. Many producers electing to dispose of layers into outlets other than slaughter. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment about steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants worked moderate to heavy schedules. Offerings continued spotty but generally ample.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(1)
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(2)
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR	(1)

<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0-0	(1)
Eastern Light	0-0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0	(2)
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate but still unaggressive for fully adequate offerings. Processing schedules were reported as normal to heavy. Finished product supplies were at least sufficient for full trade needs. The undertone was about steady to steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was generally steady.

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